

AMENDED SET OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy comprising, as an active ingredient, Staphylococcal enterotoxin B (SEB) having a substitution of at least one amino acid residue within the amino acid sequence of natural type SEB, wherein said SEB having said substitution has inhibitory activity on T cell activation wherein said SEB having said substitution interacts with specific V β component of T cell receptor (TCR) but is reduced in immunological responsiveness to SEB without inducing elimination of T cells having specific V β component, the elimination being normally induced by natural type SEB or recombinant ~~wild-type~~ natural type SEB,

wherein said SEB having said substitution is

(a) an SEB having an amino acid substitution at a ~~position corresponding to~~ the 9-position of the natural type SEB with a protein-constituting amino acid other than aspartic acid, ~~or a derivative thereof;~~

(b) an SEB having an amino acid substitution at a ~~position corresponding to~~ the 23-position of the natural type SEB with a protein-constituting amino acid other than asparagine, ~~or a derivative thereof; or~~

(c) an SEB having an amino acid substitution at a ~~position corresponding to~~ the 44-position of the natural type SEB

with a protein-constituting amino acid other than phenylalanine, ~~or a derivative thereof.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 1, wherein said SEB having said substitution is an SEB having an amino acid substitution at ~~a position corresponding to~~ the 9-position of the natural type SEB with asparagine.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 1, wherein said SEB having said substitution is an SEB having an amino acid substitution at ~~a position corresponding to~~ the 23-position of the natural type SEB with tyrosine, aspartic acid, isoleucine or lysine, ~~or a derivative thereof.~~

6. (Withdrawn) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 1 wherein said SEB modifications or derivatives thereof are SEB having amino acid substitution at the 41-position on the basis of natural type SEB with a protein-constituting amino acid other than isoleucine plus amino acid substitution either at the 44-

position with a protein-constituting amino acid other than phenylalanine or at the 45-position with a protein-constituting amino acid other than leucine, or derivatives thereof.

7. (Withdrawn) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 6 wherein said SEB modifications or derivatives thereof are SEB having amino acid substitution at the 41-position on the basis of natural type SEB with arginine or threonine plus amino acid substitution either at the 44-position with valine or at the 45-position with valine, or derivatives thereof.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 1, wherein said SEB having said substitution is an SEB having an amino acid substitution at ~~a position corresponding to~~ the 44-position of the natural type SEB with serine, ~~or a derivative thereof.~~

10. (Previously Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 9, which is for oral administration.

11. (Previously Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 10, which is an aqueous solution having pH and ionic strength that are physiologically acceptable.

12. (Previously Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 11, wherein a substance selected from the group consisting of carbohydrates, sugars, sugar alcohols and amino acids is present in an amount sufficient for providing the solution with a physiologically acceptable tonicity.

13. (Currently Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of any one of claims ~~1-5 and 8-12~~ 1, 3, 5 and 9-12, which is used for prophylactic/remedy of rheumatoid arthritis.